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*****FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE*****

Statement from Counsel for Plaintiffs in Nunez v. City of New York

(NEW YORK, NY) - The Legal Aid Society released the following statement in response to today’s court conference in *Nunez v. City of New York et. al.*, litigation concerning the brutality and excessive force in New York City jails:

“The pattern of brutality in the City jails has persisted despite the appointment of five Commissioners and years of federal court intervention.

“Since the parties first entered into this consent decree almost a decade ago, conditions on Rikers Island have spiraled, and despite who runs the Department of Correction, the City is unwilling to make the fundamental changes needed to fix this morass.

“Only an independent body such as a receiver, who is not bound by politics or other interests, can deliver on the wholesale change all incarcerated New Yorkers need and are constitutionally entitled to receive. We look forward to addressing the Court at the oral argument in September.”

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The Legal Aid Society exists for one simple yet powerful reason: to ensure that New Yorkers are not denied their right to equal justice because of poverty. For over 145 years, we have protected, defended, and advocated for those who have struggled in silence for far too long. Every day, in every borough, The Legal Aid Society changes the lives of our clients and helps improve our communities. <https://www.legalaidnyc.org>